

MISSISSIPPI
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Weekly Weather Crop Report

Week Ending: March 10, 1996

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According to the Mississippi Agricultural Statistics Service, there were 3.0 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending March 10, 1996. The main farming activities for the week included planting corn and caring for livestock. Most producers are finding hay supplies critically short and winter pastures not producing what was expected. Most producers are feeding supplemental feed because of the shortage of hay and pasture. Hay supplies were 84 percent very short, 15 percent short and 1 percent adequate. Feed grains were 44 percent very short, 54 percent short and 2 percent adequate. Soil moisture conditions were rated 1 percent very short, 6 percent short, 33 percent adequate and 60 percent surplus.

Progress in Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	1995	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	Planted	8	—	1	1					
Wheat	Jointing	22	—	39	23	1	8	29	54	8
Cattle						5	17	37	36	5
Pasture						13	26	40	18	3

County Agent Comments

"Some corn has been planted. We will see what this weekend's weather does to it. Wheat looks good."

— Don Respass, Bolivar County

"Cattle feed, especially hay, is critically short. Grain prices have about reached levels that prohibit feeding to cattle. Swine producers also watched profits fall as a result of high corn prices. Corn planting intentions are high. Most cotton producers will plant Bt cotton this season."

— Mike Howell, Calhoun County

"Hay supplies critically short. Growth on winter forage crops are slow. Some fieldwork has begun, but was stopped by rain on Wednesday night."

— Walter Alford, Montgomery County

"It has been a long, hard winter. We experienced some increase in calf losses at birth. Hay supplies have dwindled rapidly. Pastures are not yet producing the winter grazing that was expected."

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha County

"Over 2 inches of rain and freezing temperatures will delay corn planting. Cattle are coming out of winter in the worst condition I've seen in many years."

— Chuck Grantham, Copiah County

"Rain and cold temperatures are further stressing cattle; especially with the very serious shortage of hay and pasture situation. Producers are having to supply additional supplemental feed. Production cost of cattle is rising; warm weather is needed to green up pastures."

— Bill Maily, Hinds County

"Sleet, snow, and subfreezing temperatures have undone the two previous weeks of spring weather. Fruit trees and blueberries were in full bloom. The two previous weeks of 70+ degree temperatures probably saved many cows from dying because of poor condition."

— Perry Lee, Simpson County

"Wheat is jointing and it will be interesting to see how it stands this week's cold weather."

— Charles Fitts, Chickasaw County

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Weather Summary From March 4, 1996 to March 10, 1996 For Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 inch Soil Temperature			Ave Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Ave	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Ave	
1. Upper Delta													
Clarksdale	74	17	41	50	-9	0.69	-0.65	3	2.71	66	35	48	
Cleveland	76	18	41			0.84		2	2.33				
Tunica	75	13	38	49	-10	0.66	-0.56	2	1.75	65	42	52	
Extreme/Average	76	13	40	49	-9	0.73	-0.55	2	2.28	65	35	50	
2. North-Central													
Holly Springs	75	11	37	46	-9	1.13	-0.40	2	3.15	66	37	47	
Memphis	74	16	34	50	-15	1.30	+0.09	2	3.92				
Oxford	77	9	39	48	-9	1.43	-0.07	2	2.70				
Extreme/Average	77	9	37	48	-11	1.29	-0.12	2	3.26	66	37	47	
3. Northeast													
Booneville	78	13	38	49	-11	2.19	+0.78	3	3.29				
Corinth	78	14	39	49	-11	1.61	+0.44	2	3.27				
Iuka	75	9	36			3.31		2	4.44				
Pontotoc	78	13	38	49	-11	1.82	+0.45	2	4.21	69	37	49	0.05
Tupelo	79	16	38	50	-12	1.03	-0.19	2	2.96				
Verona													
Extreme/Average	79	9	38	49	-12	1.99	+0.70	2	3.63	69	37	49	0.05
4. Lower Delta													
Belzoni	81	14	42	52	-10	0.27	-1.25	2	1.56	72	42	55	
Greenwood	80	15	40	52	-12	0.22	-1.01	2	0.33				
Rolling Fork	80	14	43			0.42	-1.04	2	1.36	75	44	57	
Stoneville	80	19								67	40		
Yazoo City	81	15	45	54	-9	0.58	-0.84	2	1.49				
Extreme/Average	81	14	43	53	-10	0.37	-1.04	2	1.19	75	40	56	
5. Central													
Carthage													
Jackson	80	16	41	54	-13	2.95	+1.89	2	3.91				
Winona	79	12	43	49	-6	0.66	-0.83	2	1.84				
Extreme/Average	80	12	42	51	-9	1.81	+0.53	2	2.78				
6. East-Central													
Brooksville	81	19	47			3.04	+1.65	2	3.70				
Columbus	82	16	41			1.85		2	2.63				
State University	80	13	43	51	-8	1.90	+0.48	2	2.71	66	38	49	
Extreme/Average	82	13	44	51	-7	2.26	+0.85	2	3.01	66	38	49	
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	79	16	45			2.71		3	3.55	70	44	57	
Natchez	76	21	49	57	-8	2.78	+1.62	2	2.83				
Oakley	79	12	43			2.14	+0.83	3	2.74	72	33	52	
Vicksburg	78	17	43			0.61		2	1.06				
Extreme/Average	79	12	45	57	-12	2.06	+0.82	3	2.55	72	33	54	
8. South-Central													
Columbia	82	20	46	57	-10	1.58	+0.39	3	3.85				
McComb	78	18	45	55	-11	0.34	-0.45	1	1.98				
Extreme/Average	82	18	45	56	-11	0.96	-0.03	2	2.92				
9. Southeast													
Baumont	75	19								69	38		
Hattiesburg	76	18	46	56	-10	1.28	+0.25	3	5.80				
Laurel													
Meridian	81	18	44	54	-10	4.65	+3.62	2	6.19				
Newton	81	16	43	53	-10	5.10	+3.84	2	6.72	69	35	50	0.15
Extreme/Average	81	16	44	54	-10	3.68	+2.57	2	5.84	69	35	50	0.15
10. Coastal													
Bay St. Louis	81	25	51			0.61		3	2.61				
Biloxi	76	28	47			0.36		1	1.17				
Gulfport	76	22	51	58	-7	0.50	-0.44	1	2.18				
Pascagoula													
Poplarville	79	18	45	57	-12	0.96	-0.15	2	4.81	71	50	58	0.14
Extreme/Average	81	18	49	58	-9	0.61	-0.42	2	2.69	71	50	58	0.14
State	82	9	43	53	-10	1.58	+0.33	2	3.01	75	33	52	0.10

Abbreviations: DFN = Departure from Normal

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